DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 453 351 UD 034 227

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TITLE	Declining Share of Children Lived with Single Mothers in the Late 1990s: Substantial Differences by Race and Income.
INSTITUTION	Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Washington, DC.
PUB DATE	2001-06-15
NOTE	16p.
AVAILABLE FROM	Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 820 First Street, N.E., Suite 510, Washington, DC 20002. Tel: 202-408-1080; Fax: 202-408-1056; E-mail: center@cbpp.org; Web site: http://www.cbpp.org.
PUB TYPE	Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	Blacks; Children; *Family Structure; Hispanic Americans; Low Income Groups; *Nuclear Family; *One Parent Family; *Parents; Racial Differences; Whites

ABSTRACT

Between 1995-2000, the proportion of children under age 18 years living with single mothers declined significantly, while the proportion of children living with two married parents (including stepparents) remained essentially unchanged. Both of these statistics are significantly different from the period a decade earlier. In both time periods, there was a small increase in the proportion of children living with cohabiting mothers, and the share of children living with single fathers increased slightly. Among low income children, the proportion of children living with two married parents declined, and the percentage of children living with single mothers increased, from 1985-90. There were substantial differences across racial and ethnic groups. In the late 1990s, the proportion of African-American children living with two married parents or cohabiting mothers increased substantially, while the proportion of those living with single mothers decreased. The proportion of Hispanic children living with single mothers fell significantly from 1995-00, while the proportion of white children living with married parents remained unchanged and the proportion of white children living with single mothers declined slightly. In current living situations, 78.2 percent of White children live with two married parents, compared to 66.2 percent of Hispanic and 38.9 percent of African-American children. (SM)

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June 15, 2001

ED 453 351

DECLINING SHARE OF CHILDREN LIVED WITH SINGLE MOTHERS IN THE LATE 1990s

Substantial Differences by Race and Income

By Allen Dupree and Wendell Primus

Analysis of the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey shows that between 1995 and 2000, the proportion of children younger than 18 living with a single mother declined from 19.9 percent to 18.4 percent — a statistically significant drop of 1.5 percentage points, or 8 percent. This represents a change from the trend seen ten years earlier. Between 1985 and 1990, the proportion of children living with a single mother remained at essentially the same level.

In contrast, the proportion of children living with two married parents (including step-parents) remained essentially unchanged during this period, at about 70 percent. This differs from the period a decade earlier, when the share of children living with two married parents declined.

In both time periods, there was a small increase in the proportion of children living with a cohabiting mother.[1] Additionally, the share of children living with a single father —while still small — increased from 3.3 percent to 3.9 percent, continuing the growth seen in the late 1980s.

Children living in lower-income families (families with income below 200 percent of the official poverty line) are more likely to live with single mothers and less likely to live with two married parents than are higher-income children. Among children in lower-income families, there was a significant decline between 1995 and 2000 in the share living with a single mother. There was also an increase in the proportion of children living with a cohabiting mother and an adult male.

These changes in the living arrangements of children in lower-income families between 1995 and 2000 reflect a substantive shift from the trends seen ten years earlier. The proportion of low-income children living with two married parents fell from 58.1 percent in 1985 to 53.4 percent in 1990. During the same period, the proportion living with a single mother increased from 32.6 percent to 34.3 percent.

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[1] The CPS data do not identify non-marital relationships in all years examined. For this analysis, we use the term "cohabiting" to refer to a single mother living with one unmarried adult male. The male may in fact be the biological father of one or more of the children in the household.

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Defining "Cohabiting Mother"

In this analysis, we use the term "cohabiting mother" to refer to a living situation in which an unmarried mother lives with a single adult male who is not related to her and with no other adults. This definition is consistent with the Census Bureau's concept of the "Persons of the Opposite Sex Sharing Living Quarters," (POSSLQ) used in its analysis of cohabitation trends over time.[1]

In 1995 the Census Bureau began directly asking about the presence of unmarried partners in the household. Since this direct information was not collected in the 1985 to 1990 period analyzed in this paper, we use the definition noted above for both time periods.

It is important to note that the relationships between the adult male and other members of the household are not known. The male may be the biological father of one or more of the children in the family. He may have a significant relationship with the mother or simply be residing in the home.

Also, when making comparisons across income categories, this analysis utilizes the Census Bureau's standard definition of income, which excludes the male's income. It is possible that some of these families could have incomes greater than 200 percent of poverty once the male's income is included.

[1] Casper, Lynne, Phillip Cohen and Tavia Simmons, "How Does POSSLQ Measure Up?" US Bureau of the Census, Population Division Working Paper No. 36, May, 1999.

Underlying the overall numbers are substantial differences across racial and ethnic groups. In the past five years, the proportion of Black children living with two married parents increased from 34.8 percent to 38.9 percent — a substantial rise. In addition, an increasing proportion of Black children lived in homes with a cohabiting mother, while a declining share lived with a single mother.

The proportion of Hispanic children living with a single mother fell from 24.6 percent in 1995 to 21.3 percent in 2000 — a 13 percent drop. The proportion of White children living with married parents remained unchanged during this time, while the proportion living with a single mother decreased slightly.

Following is a more detailed discussion of child living arrangements as of March of 2000. The paper also discusses the changes in child living arrangements between 1995 and 2000 and compares these changes with those seen a decade earlier. In addition, there is an analysis of unusually large changes seen between 1999 and 2000. Finally, the paper offers a brief discussion of trends in child living arrangements that have been noted by other analyses, including the recently released Decennial Census data.

Current Child Living Arrangements

The majority of children less than 18 years old — 70 percent — live with two married biological, adoptive, or step-parents.[2] Another 18.4 percent live with a single mother, while another three percent of children lived with a cohabiting mother. Four percent of children live with an unmarried father, while an equal proportion reside with neither parent, either in the care of other relatives or non-relatives. Less than half of one percent live in some other living arrangement, typically as the head or spouse of their own family.

A more detailed analysis of children living with a single mother shows that nearly three-fourths — 73 percent — of these children live with their mothers and no other adult. Another 22 percent of children living with a single mother also live with one or more adult relatives. The remaining five percent live in some other type of home, for example with multiple unrelated adults or a mixture of related and unrelated adults.

Child living arrangements vary substantially by income. This analysis separates children into two groups — those living in families with incomes below 200 percent of poverty, and those living in families with incomes above that level.[3] About half of the children in lower-income families live with two married parents, compared to 83.6 percent of children in higher-income families. Poorer children are more than three times as likely as their higher-income counterparts to live with a single mother, with 32.8 percent of the lower-income children but only 9.5 percent of the higher-income children living with a single mother. Children in lower-income families also are more likely to live with a cohabiting mother (6.0 percent) than higher-income children (1.1 percent). Each income group has a similar likelihood of living with a single father — 4.6 percent of children in the lower-income range and 3.6 percent of children in the upper-income range. Lower-income children, however, are more likely to live with neither parent — 5.6 percent of lower-income children, compared with 1.9 percent of upper-income children.

Current living situations also differ greatly across racial/ethnic categories. White children are somewhat more likely to live with two married parents than are Hispanic children — 78.2 percent of White children live in such households, compared with 66.2 percent of Hispanic children.[4] White children are twice as likely as Black children to live with two married parents — some 38.9 percent of Black children live in such households. More than 40 percent of Black children live with a single mother, compared with one-fifth of Hispanic children and about 12 percent of White children. Black children are somewhat more likely to live in a cohabiting

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[2] The Current Population Survey does not distinguish between step-families and other types of families. See the Data section for further discussion of this limitation.

[3] This analysis uses the Census Bureau's definition of family income which does not include the unrelated male's income.

[4] In this paper, "White" means White, non-Hispanic, and "Black" means Black, non-Hispanic.

family (4.2 percent) than White and Hispanic children (2.8 percent and 2.5 percent, respectively). About four percent of children in each racial/ethnic group live with a single father.

Trends Since 1995

Since 1995, the proportion of children living with married parents has remained essentially unchanged, but the proportion living with a single mother has declined. Changes in living arrangements over time, however, differ for children in lower-income and higher-income families. Among lower-income children, there were no significant changes in the proportion living with married parents between 1995 and 2000, while the proportion living with a single mother declined. Among those lower-income children living with a single mother, however, there was a shift away from sharing a home with other relatives and towards living with a man who may have been cohabiting with the mother.

In 1995, 69.5 percent of all children lived with married parents. This proportion did not change significantly by 2000. There was, however, a decline in the proportion of children living with a single mother, from 19.9 percent in 1995 to 18.4 percent in 2000. Within the group of children living with a single mother, there were declines in the proportion of children living with only a single mother, from 14.4 percent of all children in 1995 to 13.5 percent in 2000, and living with a single mother and some other relative, from 4.5 percent to 4.0 percent. There was an increase in the proportion who lived with a cohabiting mother, from 2.6 percent to 3.0 percent. The proportion of children living with a single father, while still a small share overall, increased from 3.3 percent in 1995 to 3.9 percent in 2000.

These trends differed for children in lower-income and higher-income families. For example, the chances that a child in a lower-income family lived with both married parents remained statistically unchanged between 1995 and 2000, at about 50 percent. In contrast, children in higher-income families became somewhat less likely to live with two married parents, even though the majority of higher-income children continued to live in such households. In 1995, 85 percent of higher-income children lived with two parents; the proportion living with two parents declined to 83.6 percent by 2000.

The two income groups also saw differing trends in the late 1990s with respect to the proportion of children living with a single mother. For lower-income children, the proportion living with a single mother declined. While children in higher-income families remain far less likely to live with a single mother, they did not experience any change in the chances of living in a single-mother family.

There were changes in the types of single-mother families in which lower-income children lived. Between 1995 and 2000, the proportion of lower-income children living with other relatives as well as a single mother declined from 6.8 percent to 5.8 percent. The proportion of children living with cohabiting mothers increased modestly, from 4.8 percent to 6.0 percent. None of these statistics changed for children in higher-income families.

During this period, the increase in children living with a single father occurred among higher-income children. The proportion of higher-income children who lived with a single father increased from 2.7 percent to 3.6 percent. There was no change among their lower-income counterparts.

The changes in the late 1990s also varied across racial/ethnic categories. Between 1995 and 2000, there was no significant change in the proportion of White or Hispanic children living with two married parents. However, the proportion of Black children in such families increased from 34.8 percent to 38.9 percent. While all racial and ethnic groups saw a decrease in the proportion of children living with a single mother, the greatest decline occurred among Black children (a drop from 47.1 to 43.1 percent). Among Hispanics, the proportion fell from 24.6 percent to 21.3 percent, while the proportion among White children declined slightly (12.8 percent to 12.0 percent). Black children represented the only group to become more likely to live with a cohabiting mother over this time period. White children were the only group to experience a significant increase in the proportion living with a single father during this time period.

Changing Trends Between Late 1980s and Late 1990s

The trends observed between 1995 and 2000 reflect a significant change in child living arrangements relative to the 1985–1990 period.[5] The earlier trend of declining proportions of children living with two married parents leveled off in the later period. While the proportion of children living with a single mother did not change during the earlier period, it declined in the later period. The proportion of children living with a cohabiting mother increased during both periods. The proportion of children living with a single father also increased. These trends also varied by income and race.

As previously noted, the late 1990s saw no change in the proportion of children living with two married parents. This was a shift from the trend in the late 1980s, during which the proportion of children living with married parents fell from 74.3 percent to 73.1 percent.

The slowdown of the decline in the proportion of children living with married parents, however, was not universal across income groups. Children in lower-income families experienced a relatively large decline in the proportion living with both parents in the late 1980s, from 58.1 percent in 1985 to 53.4 percent in 1990. Between 1995 and 2000, the proportion of lower-income children living with married parents remained unchanged. The proportion of children in higher-income families who lived with married parents, on the other hand, declined during both time periods. The decline of 1.4 percentage points in the late 1990s was a

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[5] Due to a change in the Census Bureau's data processing methods in 1994, we have not analyzed the trend between 1990 and 1995.

Table 1
Child living arrangements, by income

					Percentage Point Change	
All children	**1985**	**1990**	**1995**	**2000**	**85-90**	**95-00**
Married Parents	74.3%	73.1%	69.5%	70.1%	**-1.2%**	0.6%
Single Mother	18.8%	18.9%	19.9%	18.4%	0.1%	**-1.5%**
Cohabiting Mother	1.5%	1.9%	2.6%	3.0%	**0.4%**	**0.4%**
Below 200% of Poverty						
Married Parents	58.1%	53.4%	50.8%	50.4%	**-4.7%**	-0.4%
Single Mother	32.6%	34.3%	34.2%	32.8%	**1.7%**	**-1.4%**
Cohabiting Mother	2.7%	3.6%	4.8%	6.0%	**0.9%**	**1.2%**
Above 200% of Poverty						
Married Parents	87.9%	86.8%	85.0%	83.6%	**-1.1%**	**-1.4%**
Single Mother	7.7%	8.2%	9.0%	9.5%	0.5%	0.5%
Cohabiting Mother	0.4%	0.7%	0.9%	1.1%	**0.3%**	0.2%

Bold type indicates a statistically significant difference at the 10 percent level

Cohabiting mothers are unmarried mothers residing with one unrelated adult male who may or may not be the child's biological father

Cohabiting mothers are mutually exclusive from single mothers

continuation of a trend apparent in the late 1980s; the proportion of higher-income children living with two married parents fell from 87.9 percent in 1985 to 86.8 percent in 1990.

The trend in the proportion of children living with a single mother changed substantially between the two time periods. After increasing slowly for many years, the proportion of children living with a single mother remained essentially unchanged during the late 1980s. Between 1995 and 2000, the proportion of children living with a single mother fell by a small but statistically significant amount. These changes varied by type of single-mother family. While there was no change in the proportion of children living with only their mother or with their mother and other relatives in the late 1980s, both types of single-mother families saw declines in the 1990s. However, the proportion of children living with a cohabiting mother increased in both time periods.

Again, the changes observed differed across income levels. Among lower-income children, the proportion of children living with a single mother increased from 32.6 percent to 34.3 percent during the late 1980s. This increased reversed in the late 1990s, with the proportion of lower-income children living with a single mother declining between 1995 and 2000. For higher income children, the proportion living with a single mother did not change in either time period.

The continuing increase in the proportion of children living with a cohabiting mother appears to have been driven by changes in lower-income families. In the late 1980s, the proportion of lower-income children living in families with a cohabiting mother increased from 2.7 percent to 3.6 percent. In the late 1990s, the proportion of lower-income children living in these households increased further, from 4.8 percent to 6.0 percent. Among children in higher-

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income families, there was a significant increase in the late 1980s in the proportion of children living with a cohabiting mother, but there was no such increase in the late 1990s.

There has been a continuing trend towards children living with a single father. In the late 1980s, the proportion of children living with a single father rose from 2.4 percent to 3.0 percent. In the late 1990s, the proportion of children living with a single father increased by a similar amount, from 3.3 percent to 3.9 percent. Interestingly, the late 1980s increase was driven by changes among children living below 200 percent of poverty, while the late 1990s change was driven by the trend among children living above 200 percent of poverty.

There were notable differences when the trends were examined by race. Among White children, there were no changes in the proportion living with married parents in either time period. There was, however, a decline in children living with a single mother in the late 1990s that did not occur in the late 1980s.

Among Black children, on the other hand, there were substantial changes between the late 1980s and the late 1990s in the proportion living with two married parents. This proportion remained essentially unchanged in the late 1980s but increased substantially in the late 1990s. Black children also saw a significant decline in the proportion living with a single mother between 1995 and 2000, as well as an increase in their chance of having a cohabiting mother. Neither of these trends was apparent in the late 1980s.

Among Hispanic children, trends in the proportion living with a single mother changed between the late 1980s and the late 1990s. During the late 1980s, there was essentially no change in the proportion of Hispanic children living with a single mother, but during the 1990s the proportion of Hispanic children living with a single mother declined.

Table 2
Child Living Arrangements, by race/ethnic group

					Percentage Point Change	
White, Non-Hispanic	**1985**	**1990**	**1995**	**2000**	**85-90**	**95-00**
Married Parents	81.9%	81.1%	78.5%	78.2%	-0.8%	-0.3%
Single Mother	12.4%	12.4%	12.8%	12.0%	0.0%	**-0.8%**
Cohabiting Mother	1.4%	1.7%	2.6%	2.8%	**0.3%**	0.2%
Black, Non-Hispanic						
Married Parents	40.5%	38.6%	34.8%	38.9%	-1.9%	**4.1%**
Single Mother	47.1%	47.0%	47.1%	43.1%	-0.1%	**-4.0%**
Cohabiting Mother	2.3%	2.9%	2.9%	4.2%	0.6%	**1.3%**
Hispanic						
Married Parents	68.6%	68.4%	64.2%	66.2%	-0.2%	2.0%
Single Mother	24.4%	23.5%	24.6%	21.3%	-0.9%	**-3.3%**
Cohabiting Mother	1.1%	1.6%	2.4%	2.5%	0.5%	0.1%

Bold type indicates a statistically significant difference at the 10 percent level.

Cohabiting mothers are unmarried mothers residing with one unrelated adult male who may or may not be the child's biological father.

Cohabiting mothers are mutually exclusive from single mothers.

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Results are Consistent with Decennial Census Results

The Census Bureau recently released data from the 2000 Decennial Census on family structure. One widely reported finding was that the number of families with children headed by an unmarried mother increased 25 percent since 1990, while the similar figure for married couples increased only 6 percent. While these findings may seem at odds with the results presented in this paper, a closer examination shows that the two findings do not conflict.

The report on the Decennial Census differs from this paper in how changes in household structure were measured. The Decennial Census analysis looks at changes in the number of households in each category, whereas this paper examines changes in the proportion of children in families of various types. Additionally, the two analyses differ in terms of the unit of analysis. The Census Bureau's statistics are based on numbers of families with children, whereas this analysis is based on numbers of children. While this difference should not have a large impact on the results, it does create a disparity between the two analyses because children living alone or with non-relatives are excluded from the Census Bureau's analysis but included in this analysis.

A calculation using the Decennial Census data to determine the proportion of children in families of various types demonstrates that the differences between the two analyses are not as great as they may initially appear. Based on this calculation, the Decennial Census data show 76 percent of households with children were headed by a married couple in 1990, while about 20 percent were headed by an unmarried mother. In 2000, the data show 72 percent of households with children were headed by married couples and 22 percent were headed by an unmarried mother. These results are not very different from the overall results presented on Table 1. Based on the CPS data, the proportion of children living with two married parents in 1990 was 73 percent and the proportion living with an unmarried mother was 21 percent (this figure includes cohabiting mothers, which is consistent with the Decennial Census figures). These proportions were 70 percent and 21 percent in 2000. In addition, this analysis is based on children, not families, as is the case with the Census analysis. Once the data from both sources are presented in terms of living arrangement distributions, the results appear to be consistent.

Additionally, this analysis pays particular attention to trend changes that occurred between 1995 and 2000. A comparison the of Decennial Census from 1990 and 2000, while illustrative, cannot detect changes that are concentrated in particular years in that 10-year period. Again, Table 1 shows that between 1990 and 1995, the overall proportion of children living with married parents declined, while the percent living with a single mother increased. As discussed in this paper, the key

Substantive Changes in 2000

Shifts in child living arrangements tend to be too small to be statistically significant from year to year. Between 1999 and 2000, however, there were a number of changes in child living arrangements that were large enough to be statistically significant. This is noteworthy because changes in family structure tend to be very gradual and often are not noticeable over a short period of time. For example, the proportion of children living with two married parents

increased from 69.1 percent to 70.1 percent. Similarly, the proportion of children living with a single mother declined from 19.6 percent to 18.4 percent.

Among lower-income children, the share living with a single mother declined from 35.0 percent in 1999 to 32.8 percent in 2000. Statistically significant changes also occurred among specific racial/ethnic groups. The proportion of White children living with married parents increased from 77.3 percent to 78.2 percent, while the share living with a single mother declined from 13.0 percent to 12.0 percent. The proportion of Black children living with a cohabiting mother increased from 3.1 percent to 4.2 percent.

Recent Trends Detected in Other Data Sources

Other analyses have reached similar conclusions regarding child living arrangements in recent years. The Census Bureau recently issued a report based on the Survey of Income and Program Participation regarding child living arrangements in 1996. In particular, the report noted that the proportion of children living with a single parent had stopped rising in the 1990s.[6]

Data from the Urban Institute's National Survey of America's Families has found similar changes between 1997 and 1999 in child living arrangements. Nationally, the survey found a significant increase in children living in a two-parent family coupled with a significant decline in children living with a single parent. While there was no significant change among children living with two parents when separated by income (above and below 200 percent of poverty), the decrease in children living with a single parent was concentrated among lower-income children.[7]

Conclusion

This analysis of CPS data for the late 1990s compared to the late 1980s indicates that child living arrangements have begun to change in recent years. The decline in the proportion of children living with two married parents that occurred during the late 1980s stopped in the late 1990s. At the same time, the proportion of children living with single mothers decreased.

There were notable variations across racial and ethnic groups. The increase in children living with married parents was concentrated among Black children. While all groups experienced a decline in the percent of children living with a single mother, the decreases were largest between Black and Hispanic children.

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[6] Fields, Jason, "Living Arrangements of Children: Fall 1996," Current Populations Reports, P70-74. U.S. Census Bureau, Washington, DC, 2001.

[7] Vandivere, Sharon, Kristen Moore, and Martha Zaslow, "Children's Living Environment: Findings from the National Survey of America's Families," Urban Institute, October 2000.

Changes in children's living arrangements varied across income groups as well. In the late 1980s, children in both lower and higher-income families became less likely to live with married parents and more likely to live with single mothers. While this continued in the late 1990s for children in higher-income families, both trends ceased for lower-income children.

Data

The child living arrangements presented in this analysis are based on calculations using the Census Bureau's March Current Population Survey (CPS). The Census Bureau releases its own tabulations of living arrangements annually,[8] but our analysis differs from the Census analysis in two ways. First, the Census analysis of families excludes *unrelated secondary families* — groups of two or more related individuals living in the home of a non-relative. To get a more complete picture of all children's living arrangements, we have included such individuals in the analysis. Second, the Census Bureau defines the child's living arrangements based on the marital status of the head of the household, whereas this analysis defines a child's living arrangements based on the presence and marital status of the parent of that child. This makes a difference in a multi-generational household. For example, if the home contains a married couple, their unmarried daughter, and her son, Census considers the grandson of the household to live in a married couple family. Our analysis classifies him as living with a single mother and other relatives.

The primary advantage of the CPS is that it provides annual data over an extended time period, which is ideal for analyzing trends. However, there are some limitations that have affected this analysis. First, the Census Bureau made substantial changes in its data processing methodology in 1994 that affected the family relationships shown in the data.[9] This change makes it difficult to compare statistics derived from data collected before 1994 to statistics derived from data collected after the change in methodology. However, it does not affect the comparison of *trends* before and after the new method was implemented.

In addition, because the data show the relationship of the individuals in the household only to the designated head of household, it is not possible to determine the relationship between children and members of the household other than the household head. Thus, we are unable to clearly differentiate between children living with two married biological or adoptive parents as opposed to those living with a step-parent. In the case of a single mother living with an unrelated man, it is impossible to determine whether or not the man is the biological father of the children.

There are other issues related to the determination of household income. Income data collected in the March CPS are based on the current household members' income in the previous

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[8] See the P20 series of Census publications.

[9] Saluter, Arlene, "Marital Status and Living Arrangements: March 1994," Current Populations Report, P20-484, Census Bureau, Washington, DC, 1996.

calendar year. If a portion of the household's income in the previous year was obtained by a family member who no longer resides in the household as of March, that income will not be included as household income in the survey. This could put the household in an income group that does not reflect the household's actual income in the previous year. In addition, no income data are collected for children less than 15 years of age who do not live with relatives. Therefore, children under 15 not living with any relatives are included in the overall proportions of children in each type of living arrangement, but excluded from the tables of lower- and higher-income children. This means that the figures that are disaggregated by income are not completely comparable to the overall numbers.

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Child Living Arrangem

	Overall	
	1985	**1990**
Married Parents	74.3%	73.1%
Cohabiting Mother	1.5%	1.9%
Single Mother	18.8%	18.9%
Single Mother Only	13.9%	13.9%
Single Mother & Relative(s)	4.3%	4.2%
Other Single Mother	0.6%	0.8%
Cohabiting or Single Father	2.4%	3.0%
No Parents	2.6%	2.8%
Other	0.5%	0.3%
	Below 200% of Poverty	
	1985	**1990**
Married Parents	58.1%	53.4%
Cohabiting Mother	2.7%	3.6%
Single Mother	32.6%	34.3%
Single Mother Only	24.9%	26.1%
Single Mother & Relative(s)	6.7%	6.7%
Other Single Mother	1.0%	1.5%
Cohabiting or Single Father	2.3%	3.3%
No Parents	3.7%	4.9%
Other	0.6%	0.5%
	Above 200% of Poverty	
	1985	**1990**
Married Parents	87.9%	86.8%
Cohabiting Mother	0.4%	0.7%
Single Mother	7.7%	8.2%
Single Mother Only	5.1%	5.4%
Single Mother & Relative(s)	2.4%	2.5%
Other Single Mother	0.2%	0.3%
Cohabiting or Single Father	2.5%	2.8%
No Parents	1.2%	1.3%
Other	0.2%	0.1%

Source: Tabulation of the Current Population Survey

Note: Due to changes in data processing methods, percentages before 1994 should not be compared to percentages after that year. Comparisons of pre-1994 trends to post-1994 trends are valid.

Bold type indicates a statistically significant difference at the 10 percent level.

Cohabiting mothers are unmarried mothers residing with one unrelated adult male who may or may not b

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ents: Overall and by Income

			Percentage Point Change		
1995	1999	2000	85-90	95-00	99-00
69.5%	69.1%	70.1%	**-1.2%**	0.6%	**1.0%**
2.6%	2.7%	3.0%	**0.4%**	**0.4%**	0.3%
19.9%	19.6%	18.4%	0.1%	**-1.5%**	**-1.2%**
14.4%	14.5%	13.5%	0.0%	**-0.9%**	**-1.0%**
4.5%	4.3%	4.0%	-0.1%	**-0.5%**	-0.3%
1.0%	0.8%	0.9%	0.2%	-0.1%	**0.1%**
3.3%	4.0%	3.9%	**0.6%**	**0.6%**	-0.1%
4.3%	4.2%	4.1%	0.2%	-0.2%	-0.1%
0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	**-0.2%**	0.1%	0.0%

			Percentage Point Change		
1995	1999	2000	85-90	95-00	99-00
50.8%	49.4%	50.4%	**-4.7%**	-0.4%	1.0%
4.8%	5.2%	6.0%	**0.9%**	**1.2%**	**0.8%**
34.2%	35.0%	32.8%	**1.7%**	**-1.4%**	**-2.2%**
25.5%	27.0%	25.4%	1.2%	-0.1%	**-1.6%**
6.8%	6.4%	5.8%	0.0%	**-1.0%**	-0.6%
1.9%	1.6%	1.6%	**0.5%**	-0.3%	0.0%
4.2%	4.7%	4.6%	**1.0%**	0.4%	-0.1%
5.5%	5.1%	5.6%	**1.2%**	0.1%	0.5%
0.6%	0.7%	0.6%	-0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%

			Percentage Point Change		
1995	1999	2000	85-90	95-00	99-00
85.0%	83.4%	83.6%	**-1.1%**	**-1.4%**	0.2%
0.9%	1.1%	1.1%	**0.3%**	0.2%	0.0%
9.0%	9.7%	9.5%	0.5%	0.5%	-0.2%
5.9%	6.4%	6.2%	0.3%	0.3%	-0.2%
2.8%	3.0%	2.9%	0.1%	0.1%	-0.1%
0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
2.7%	3.6%	3.6%	0.3%	**0.9%**	0.0%
2.2%	2.1%	1.9%	0.1%	-0.3%	-0.2%
0.1%	0.2%	0.3%	-0.1%	**0.2%**	0.1%

e the child's biological father-- •

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Child Living Ar

	White, Non-Hispanic	
	1985	**1990**
Married Parents	81.9%	81.1%
Cohabiting Mother	1.4%	1.7%
Single Mother	12.4%	12.4%
Single Mother Only	9.6%	9.7%
Single Mother & Relative(s)	2.3%	2.1%
Other Single Mother	0.5%	0.6%
Cohabiting or Single Father	2.3%	3.0%
No Parents	1.7%	1.6%
Other	0.4%	0.2%

	Black, Non-Hispanic	
	1985	**1990**
Married Parents	40.5%	38.6%
Cohabiting Mother	2.3%	2.9%
Single Mother	47.1%	47.0%
Single Mother Only	32.6%	33.2%
Single Mother & Relative(s)	13.7%	12.4%
Other Single Mother	0.8%	1.4%
Cohabiting or Single Father	2.9%	3.4%
No Parents	6.3%	7.5%
Other	0.9%	0.5%

	Hispanic (of any race)	
	1985	**1990**
Married Parents	68.6%	68.4%
Cohabiting Mother	1.1%	1.6%
Single Mother	24.4%	23.5%
Single Mother Only	18.5%	15.3%
Single Mother & Relative(s)	5.1%	6.6%
Other Single Mother	0.8%	1.6%
Cohabiting or Single Father	2.0%	2.7%
No Parents	3.0%	3.3%
Other	0.8%	0.5%

Source: Tabulation of the Current Population Survey

Note: Due to changes in data processing methods, percentages before 1994 should not be compared
percentages after that year. Comparisons of pre-1994 trends to post-1994 trends are valid.

Bold type indicates a statistically significant difference at the 10 percent level.

Cohabiting mothers are unmarried mothers residing with one unrelated adult male who may or may no

able 4
rangements: By Race

			Percentage Point Change		
1995	1999	2000	85-90	95-00	99-00
78.5%	77.3%	78.2%	-0.8%	-0.3%	**0.9%**
2.6%	2.7%	2.8%	**0.3%**	0.2%	0.1%
12.8%	13.0%	12.0%	0.0%	**-0.8%**	**-1.0%**
9.8%	10.3%	9.4%	0.1%	-0.4%	**-0.9%**
2.3%	2.1%	2.1%	-0.2%	-0.2%	0.0%
0.7%	0.6%	0.5%	0.1%	-0.2%	-0.1%
3.1%	4.0%	4.0%	**0.7%**	**0.9%**	0.0%
2.8%	2.7%	2.6%	-0.1%	-0.2%	-0.1%
0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	**-0.2%**	0.1%	0.1%

			Percentage Point Change		
1995	1999	2000	85-90	95-00	99-00
34.8%	37.0%	38.9%	-1.9%	**4.1%**	1.9%
2.9%	3.1%	4.2%	0.6%	**1.3%**	**1.1%**
47.1%	45.8%	43.1%	-0.1%	**-4.0%**	-2.7%
33.2%	32.4%	32.1%	0.6%	-1.1%	-0.3%
12.0%	12.4%	9.7%	-1.3%	**-2.3%**	**-2.7%**
1.9%	1.0%	1.3%	0.6%	-0.6%	0.3%
3.8%	3.7%	4.0%	0.5%	0.2%	0.3%
10.8%	9.5%	9.2%	1.2%	-1.6%	-0.3%
0.7%	0.8%	0.7%	-0.4%	0.0%	-0.1%

			Percentage Point Change		
1995	1999	2000	85-90	95-00	99-00
64.2%	65.0%	66.2%	-0.2%	2.0%	1.2%
2.4%	2.6%	2.5%	0.5%	0.1%	-0.1%
24.6%	22.6%	21.3%	-0.9%	**-3.3%**	-1.3%
16.2%	15.1%	13.1%	**-3.2%**	**-3.1%**	**-2.0%**
7.0%	5.8%	6.4%	1.5%	-0.6%	0.6%
1.4%	1.7%	1.8%	**0.8%**	0.4%	0.1%
3.9%	4.1%	4.0%	0.7%	0.1%	-0.1%
4.5%	5.0%	5.4%	0.3%	0.9%	0.4%
0.5%	0.8%	0.6%	-0.3%	0.1%	-0.2%

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t be the child's biological father.